

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending in the present application. No amendments have been proposed. It is respectfully submitted that this Response is fully responsive to the Office Action dated October 12, 2005.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication in item 18 of the Action that claims 2, 3, 6, 9, 11, 12, 15 and 16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the features of the base and any intervening claims.

However, for at least the reasons discussed below, it is respectfully submitted that all of claims 1-17 are allowable.

As to the Merits:

As to the merits of this case, the Examiner sets forth the following rejection:

claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 13, 14 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dunstan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,964,879) in view of Hetzler (U.S. Patent No. 5,954,820).

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Regarding the 103 rejection (obviousness)

While the Examiner correctly acknowledges in page 4 of the Action that the primary reference of “Dunstan does not disclose wherein the monitoring means **is an access monitoring means for monitoring IO packets** from said predetermined single one or a number of said components (emphasis in the original).,” the Examiner again relies on the secondary reference of Hetzler for teaching the above-noted drawbacks and deficiencies of Dunstan.

More specifically, the Examiner states in page 4 of the Office Action that “Hetzler teaches an access monitoring means for monitoring IO packets.” However, it is respectfully submitted that Hetzler does not disclose that IO packets are monitored or suggest anything that could possibly be interpreted that IO packets are included in the signals to be monitored.

That is, as already pointed out in the last response filed on July 28, 2005, Hetzler monitors signals of a hardware module. On the other hand, the present invention obtains access information from IO packets that is information between software modules. In order to show the differences between the present invention and Hetzler, applicants are attaching Diagram A and Diagram B for the Examiner’s reference, which clearly illustrate Hetzler monitoring signals of different hardware modules and the present invention which obtains access information from IO packets that is information between software modules, respectively.

In addition, applicants are also attaching a paper (Document 1), which explains the IO

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packets of the present invention. More specifically, the "I/O Request Packet" in this paper is equivalent to the IO packets of the present invention. (Document 1: Developing Windows NT Device Drivers; A Programmer's Handbook; Edward N. Dekker, Joseph M. Newcomer ; p.101-104 ; ADDISON-WESLEY ; ISBN 0-201-69590-1.)

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following website, which also provides a discussion of the IO packets for the Examiner's convenience.

http://msdn.microsoft.com/library/Oefault.asio?url=/library/en-us /dndevice/html/IRP_Handle.asp

In view of the aforementioned remarks, Applicants submit that that the claims are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

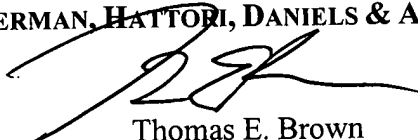
If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

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If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TEB', is written over the firm name.

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TEB/jl

Enclosures: Diagram A
Diagram B
Document 1